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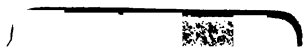
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WILLIAM.

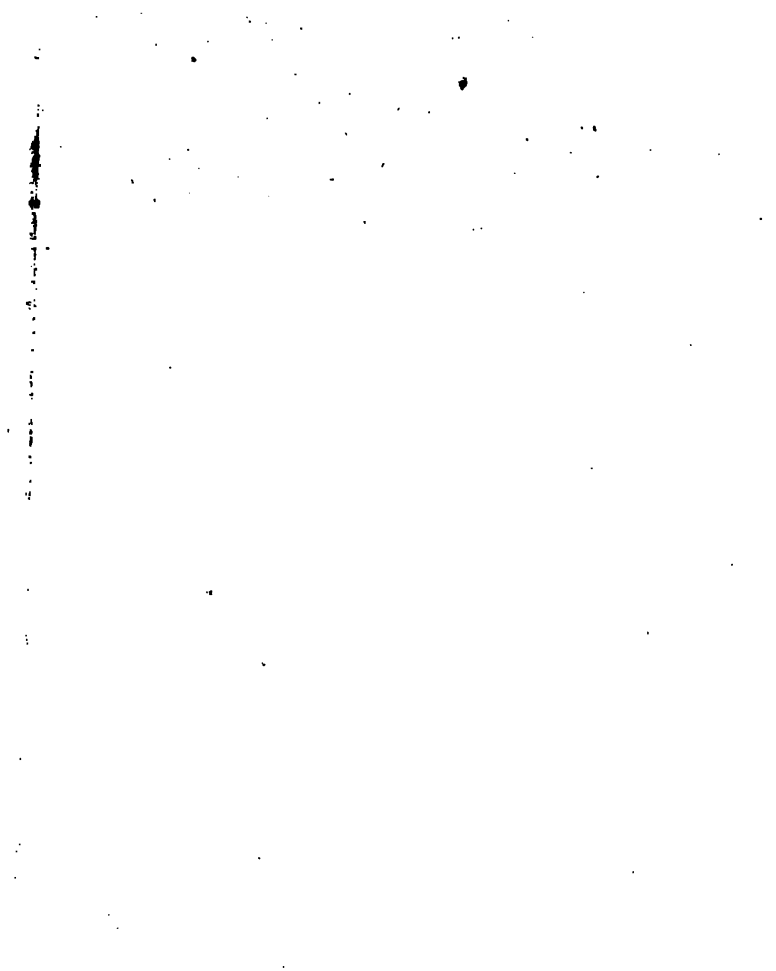
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HISTORY AND RHYME,

FOR

YOUNG READERS.

THE FOUR ENGLISH KINGS WILLIAM.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.



HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY.
KING WILLIAM IV.

...S WITH [AM.

...S.

... AND JUVENILE MINDS."
... "MINDS" ...

ROW;



POETRY AND RHYME,
FOR
YOUNG READERS.

THE
ENGLISH KINGS WILLIAM.

WITH NOTES.

BY LUCY JOYNES,
ORIGINAL POETRY FOR INFANT AND JUVENILE MINDS."
PATH: A DISCOURSE TO CHILDREN;" "MENTAL
TURES, IN VERSE, FOR INFANTS;" &c.

Names in archives enroled—
Times—and "things new and old."

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1834.



HISTORY AND RHYME,

FOR

YOUNG READERS.

THE FOUR ENGLISH KINGS WILLIAM.

THE British throne, William of Normandy won,
And left it to William the Second, his son;
The Third of the Williams from Holland they bear;
King William the Fourth was the true English heir.

Dominion had eighteen sole monarchs maintained,
Ere William the First, the great Conqueror, reigned;
This prince, then his son William Rufus likewise,
Were crowned as the years from a thousand arise.

Six centuries thence, augment history's page,
Kings, queens, in succession, for age after age,
One-fourth of a hundred appear in array,
Then William the Third with his bride had the sway.

Thence Anne, and the Georges all one, two, three, four,
And lineage bestows on us one William more;
The fourth place has one, and the third place has eight,
In William the Fourth's anno Domini date.



King William the First was a warrior bold;
King William the Second was cross, we are told;
King William the Third was the bow to a storm;
King William the Fourth is the prince for reform.

A record, with scrutiny First William took,
The nobles to tax, it was called Dooms-day Book;
To London he added the strong, famous Tower,
And built many fortresses, all in his power.

William First, built the castle on Nottingham rocks;*
King William the Second built Westminster Hall;
King William the Third set up chimneys to nooks;*
The works of Fourth William we should not forestall.

King William the First as his will had the law;
King William his son, held his subjects in awe;
King William the Third passed the great Bill of Rights;
King William the Fourth to give freedom delights.

All in all were the Normans in First William's day,
The English were slighted, and jealous were they;
The third William's reign wig and tory supplies;
Reformers had we with reformer-anties.



In a court that was founded by William the First,
A cloth that was *checked* on the table they lay; ⁴
To cavil and question its councils, who durst?
The court of *Exchequer* it is to this day.

Much pleasure in hunting the First William found,
He made him a forest full thirty miles round;
Then the elf of a poacher must peep well about,
For if he's detected, his eyes are put out.

And William the First made this subtile decree,
That no light, after eight, in the dwellings should be;
Then fancy you hear them—"The curfew—hark! hark! ⁵
Off to bed in a trice, or we grope in the dark."

The baron—the slave—rich or poor, rich or poor,
Were the first William's folk, and that all the land o'er;
Nor provident peasant could wealthier be,
Or citizen thrive, and his property free.



With William the First were few arts understood;
With William the Second they kept a slow pace;
With William the Third were old carvings in wood;
With William the Fourth, new inventions in lace.

First William:—in vain for the authors we look;
With him, and with Rufus was no printed book;
Third William:—new English begins to be seen;
Fourth William—and now comes the cheap magazine.

First William:—the youth learn the use of the bow,
The bright steel to brandish, the missile to throw;
Third William:—the youth leave the science of arms,
To stir in the shops, or to thrive at the farms.

Whoe'er with First William had cause of vexation,
I trow it was never in multiplication;
Slate, sponge, book and pencil, post-paper and pen, ⁶
And a hand to employ them, were rarities then.



In religion, one sect served the Conqueror's time,
Roman Catholic that, and dissent was a crime;
Nor rival prevailed for four centuries more,
Now, with our king William the sects are a score.

When over Great Britain the Third William reigned,
The famed Reformation had widely obtained;
The martyrs had passed, and prevailed had their prayer,
Yet still education was much in the rear.

No running to school soon as breakfast is done,
With eyes beaming bright in the sabbath-morn sun;
And sprightliest feet, hardly touching the ground,
When Third William's poor little subjects were found.

Of Bible societies nothing was heard,
Of preaching the Gospel to pagans, no word;
The heathen might still to his idol bow down,
When William the Third held the sceptre and crown.

And no gentle lady was on the Lord's day,
Here and there, with the free-tendered Tracts on the way;
The sweet themes of mercy, that seek to be read,
And echo the truths in the Bible-page said.

The Bibles! in types that the aged may use,
And shining in sheep, or in calf if you chuse;
The Tracts! in fit wrappers coarse, costless and strong—
For why may not these have a line in the song.



Estates were first feudal in First William's reign;
Non-suited, or ill-suited, none might complain;
Much freedom existed in Third William's day,
Yet taxes they had, and some *feuds* I dare say.

With William the Fourth we are bless'd it is clear,
None daring, few wishing to put us in fear;
And though for our pleasant glazed windows we pay,
Taxed is not our conscience—we have a good day.



When First William's army advanced from the tide,
Our woodlands were many, our forests were wide;
Now eight hundred years, trade, art, commerce, and store,
Have felled the wide forests and peopled them o'er.

No shops in the city,⁷ no lamps in the street—
No carpets, for ladies and gentlemen's feet—⁸
Tea-merchants not any—then, no sugared sups,
Bright ale and rich honey enlivened their cups.⁹

No vestments of calico, no silken clothes,¹⁰
No hat of black beaver, and no knitted hose;
The bonnet, the doublet, the stockings of cloth,
Bestowed by the *mouton*,¹¹ preferred by the moth.

First Williams—and festivals heightened the year,¹²
And cities and towns had an annual fair;
Third William—and spring, and the fine holiday,
Of crowning the milkmaid the queen of the May.

The bread, with First William was wholesome and brown;¹³
The buns, with Third William were buns of renown;
The rolls, with Fourth William, an every day treat,
Are nicely rasped round, and of delicate wheat.



Once, London had each pleasant walk and each well,¹⁴
Where now many thousand inhabitants dwell;
But gardens, when William the First held the land,
Were gardens of princes and clergy so grand.¹⁵

The plot by the lattice the cottager saw, ¹⁶
In spring, had no radishes ready to draw;
No border of parsley the housewife might boast,
And not a potato to boil or to roast.

And no sweet, white turnips to pull or to crop,
No carrots to scrape, and no parsnips to chop;
No salad, no cabbage, no artichoke fine;
Nor soup with bright marigold helped them to dine.

Nor orchard's fine clusters the urchins invite,
And no little hands plucked the currant-fruit white; ¹⁷
Nor apricot spread o'er the rude southern seat,
Nor "cherry-ripe! cherry-ripe!" rung through the street.

But sea-kale they had, ¹⁸—they had buds of the hop,
And pulse a choice part of their midsummer crop;
They'd earth-nut, and horse-radish, sorrel and dock,
And dwindling fruits, quite a plentiful stock.—

They'd strawberry clusters and nuts from the wood,
And blackberries, cranberries, raspberries—*good*;
Of herbage and fruitage et ceteras wild,
And hip-berries—strung, for the neck of the child.

The oak shed its acorns, the beach-tree its mast,
The hog reveled under, and munched them up fast;
The elder boughs flourished and shaded the wicket,
Old shag heard the bugle and plumped through the thicket.

Six ages brought riches in herb, tree and berry;
Brought apples and pears, yes, and cyder and perry;
But rhubarb's fine stalks, with king William the Third,
In various pastry, the like was not heard.

King William the First—not a gardening life:
King William the Third—rural authors are rife:¹⁹
King William the Fourth—horticulturists shine,
And crown their productions, grape, melon, and pine.



The British dominions are England and Wales,
And Scotland connected, that northwardly trails;
And Ireland confronting our westerly shores,
Extensive, commercial, affording us stores.—

A few happy isles on old England attend,
Her protection they share, in return they befriend;
They proffer enjoyment, contribute to wealth,
And raise the worn frame to the vigour of health.

Off our Cumberland quays is the fine Isle of Man;
Isle of Wight in the southerly wave is just ran;
And Jersey, the truant, we southwardly spy,
And trace the twin-rival, fair Guernsey, hard by.

Of British possessions across the wide sea,
Are east and west Indies, important that be;
And Cape of Good Hope, and New Holland afar,
And Van Dieman's Land, and all thriving they are.

The fortress Gibraltar—Sierra Leone,
And African isles, St. Helena is one;
Then home in the north are the Orkneys abreast,
And Shetlands skipped off—and so forth, for the rest.

The British dominions with William the First,
Were England exclusive—but that's not the worst;
The British dominions, away to the west,
Late, slavery's prey—erst, the isles of the blest.—

These British dominions!—what might we rehearse?
But why repeat horrors and sadden the verse,
Now roused is philanthropy, freedom is rife,
And chased from our soils is that wretchedest life?



The Romans, the Saxons, the Danes in their time,
And last the fine Normans set heart on our clime;
For this semi-island, north bound by the Tweed,
They faced the defenders, and urged the bold deed.

For this *terra firma* of pig-nuts and haws,
Bestudded with hovels of sallow and straws;
For this ocean-spot bravest warriors bled,
And lastly, loved Harold was ranked with the dead.

Would we take us again to the wild woody heights?
Would we war with the wolf, and have mistletoe rights?—
Then let us not be at ambition too loud—
The Conquerors raised us, and now we are proud.



Twenty years, William First filled the throne of this realm;
Thence, twelve years of affairs, with his son at the helm;
Years thirteen, Third William was England's king;
And next of their persons and ages we sing:—

King William the First was most stout, it is said;
The Second king William's complexion was red;[°]
Third William was spare, and an asthma had he;
Fourth William is comely and pleasant to see.

King William the First was aged sixty-two years;
William Rufus was aged forty-four it appears;
King William the Third, on his last natal day,
Was aged fifty and one, his biographers say.

Died, William the First, his horse plunging and shaking;
William Second, his son, by an arrow was slain;
Died William the third, through his collar-bone breaking;
Fourth William is living—long, long may he reign!

INSCRIPTIONS.

Who lived many years with Matilda his queen,
As gracious a couple as rarely is seen?—

KING WILLIAM I.

Born 1024..... Began to reign in England 1066..... Died 1087.

Who led a tyrannical, worthless life,
Unloved and unloving, nor took him a wife?—

KING WILLIAM II.

Born 1056..... Crowned 1087..... Killed 1100.

Who Mary selected, his English bride,
And loved her, and verily mourned when she died?—

KING WILLIAM III.

Born 1650..... Married 1677..... Began to reign in England 1689.
Mary died 1694..... William died 1702.

Who, star of the navy-fleet, voyages made,
And took for his consort the fair Adelaide?—

KING WILLIAM IV.

Born 1765... Adelaide born 1792... Married 1818... Ascended the throne 1830.
Crowned 1831.

And, when Britannic history,
Shall swell with coming ages;
O may the present epoch shine,
The brightest of its pages.

NOTES.

NOTE I.

"Dominion had eighteen sole monarchs maintained,"

Those marked with an asterisk reigned only during a partition of the kingdom.

SAXON.

EGBERT.

*ETHELWOLF.

*ETHELBALD.

ETHELBERT.

ETHERED.

ALFRED THE GREAT.

EDWARD THE ELDER.

ATHELSTAN.

EDMUND.

EDRED.

EDWY.

EDGAR.

EDWARD THE MARTYR.

ETHELRED.

EDMOND IRONSIDE.

DANISH.

CANUTE.

HAROLD HAREFOOT.

HARDICANUTE.

SAXON LINE resumed.

EDWARD THE CONFESSOR.

HAROLD.

Comprising a period of 239 years.

“ The use of family surnames, descending from father to son, seems to have been introduced into Britain by the Normans.”——
“ Among the Anglo or English Saxons, persons who bore the same Christian name, were distinguished from one another by descriptive epithets; as, the black, the white, the long, the strong, &c.”——
“ Family surnames, at their first introduction, like family arms, were confined to persons of rank and fortune, who most commonly took their surnames from the castles in which they resided, or the estates which they possessed.” . . . *Henry's Hist. of Great Brit.*

The Edwards:—the Elder, the Martyr, the Confessor.
Harold Harefoot possessed unusual agility in running.



NOTE 2.

“ William First built the castle on Nottingham rocks;” &c.

“ William (says Matthew Paris,) excelled all his predecessors in building castles, and greatly harassed his subjects and vassals with these works.”

“ William Rufus was still a greater builder than his father.” It is recorded, “ This William was much addicted to building royal castles and palaces.”

“ The situation of the castles of the Anglo-Norman kings and barons, was most commonly on an eminence, and near a river.”—
“ These castles served both for residence and defence.”——“ They could not think themselves safe without the protection of deep ditches and strong walls.”

If any of my young readers would like to have a view of a castle of olden time; they must imagine——An ample space of ground, surrounded by a deep ditch, and thick, high walls, with a parapet and towers; a draw-bridge upon the river; a great gate, fortified by towers and rooms; strong folding doors, plated with iron; out-works of massy walls with turrets; within the walls an open space, and a chapel; and, another ditch, wall, gate, and other towers enclosing the inner court and tower; a large, square, centre fabric, several stories high, having small windows in prodigious thick walls; this great inner tower, the palace of the owner of the castle, and the residence of the governor, containing the great hall; and under ground, dismal vaults and dungeons.... *From Henry's History.*

NOTE 3.

“ King William the Third set up chimneys to nooks;”

William Third repealed the tax upon chimneys. It was sometimes called chimney money, and sometimes hearth money.



NOTE 4.

“ A cloth that was *checked* on the table they lay;” &c.

“ A Branch of the King's Court was the Exchequer,”—called, “because a chequered Cloth figured like a Chess-board, antiently wont to be laid on the Table in the Court; which Custom continues to this Day.”

Madox's History of the Excheq

NOTE 5.

“Then fancy you hear them—“The curfew—hark! hark!” &c.

At eight o'clock, a bell was rung, called the *curfew*; at the sound of which all people were obliged, under severe penalties, to put out their fires and candles.

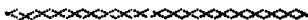
In assigning to the Conqueror, a motive for adopting the curfew, authors are not agreed; some think it was a precaution against destructive fires, as so many houses were built of wood; by others it “has been thought a badge of the slavery he imposed upon the Saxons; but this was practised in many other countries, and was deemed a necessary precaution in these turbulent ages.”

Baldwin.

Curfew, signifies, cover fire, from *couvre feu*.

“After the Northumberland malcontents had called in the Danes, whose general, Osborne, the king of Denmark's brother, king William bribed by large presents to go off, he showed no mercy towards the English; but after having, for a terror to the rest, ravaged the whole country between York and Durham, so as not to leave

a house standing, he removed all the English from their posts, took away their estates, seized upon all the fiefs of the crown, and gave them to the Normans, from whom are descended many of the great families of this day in England."..... *Barclay.*



NOTE 6.

"Slate, sponge, book and pencil, post-paper and pen."

Post-paper.—"It appears that our paper was at first made of cotton,"—"towards the end of the eleventh or beginning of the twelfth century, it began to be made of linen rags, as it is at present."..... *Henry.*



NOTE 7.

"No shops in the city."

No shops in the city? how strange!—I suppose they had booths instead, which would be either sufficiently airy or sufficiently shady.

But if London streets, at that period, had no elegant shops, fronted with glass; they had snug "wooden houses covered with straw."

Stow's Survey of London.

The Anglo-Saxons had a law, "that no man should sell or buy any thing above twenty-pence value, except in open market; and every bargain of sale must be executed before witnesses."

Hume's History of England.

The Conqueror decreed, "That all fairs and markets shall be kept in fortified cities, towns, or castles."

Henry.

I should suppose, at the castle-yard fair, the long-hoarded silver pennies would be in circulation. "Though the silver penny (Norman) of this period was but a small coin; yet it was of considerable value, and would have purchased as much provisions, or other goods, as four or five of our shillings will do at present,"—"smaller coins were sometimes very scarce,"—"the people had been accustomed to cut or break silver pennies into halves and quarters, which passed

for half-pennies and farthings. Fer Henry 1. A.D. 1108, prohibited this practice; and commanded, that all half-pennies and farthings, as well as pennies, should be entire and round." *Henry*.



NOTE 8.

" No carpets, for ladies and gentlemen's feet."

Thomas a Becket, prime minister to Henry 2, of whom it is said, " The pomp of his retinue, the sumptuousness of his furniture, the luxury of his table, the munificence of his presents, exceeded any thing that England had ever before seen in any subject:"—" commanded his servants to cover the floor of his dining-room with clean straw or hay every morning in winter, and with fresh bulrushes and green branches of trees every day in summer, that such of the Knights who came to dine with him, as could not find room on the benches, might sit down and dine comfortably on the floor, without spoiling their fine clothes." *Henry on Fitz-Stephen*.

NOTE 9.

“Bright ale and rich honey enlivened their cups.”

With the Anglo-Saxons, some fines, instead of being paid in money, were exacted in measures of honey.



NOTE 10.

“————— no silken clothes.”

But great personages could be very grand in those days, although they had no silks nor satins.

“Robert Bloet, the second bishop of Lincoln, made a present to Henry I, of a cloak of exquisitely fine cloth, lined with black sables, with white spots, which cost 100£. of the money of those times, equal in efficacy to 1500£. of our money at present.”

The cloak of Richard I, was still more splendid, and probably more expensive. It is thus described by his historian: “The king

wore a cloak striped in straight lines, adorned with half-moons of solid silver, and almost covered with shining orbs, in imitation of the system of the heavenly bodies.' "

It is said of the Norman ladies, "Their mantles had commonly hoods annexed to them, which sometimes hung down behind as an ornament, and at other times covered their heads. The girdles of princesses and ladies of quality were richly ornamented with gold, pearls and precious stones, and at their girdles they had a large purse or pouch suspended. Both their inner garments and their mantles of state were embroidered with various figures, and lined with furs. They wore collars of pearls or precious stones about their necks, and rings of great value on their fingers."

Henry.

"The Saxons were little acquainted with any clothing but what was made of wool. Linen was not much used."

Hume.

"The shirts of all persons of rank and fortune, and even of the great body of the people, (12th century) were of linen."

Henry.

NOTE 11.

“Bestowed by the *mouton*.”

Mouton or mutton.—“William the Conqueror despised and ill treated the Saxons, because they were not so wise and so brave as his own countrymen: French was the only language spoken at court; and one circumstance has taken place in consequence, in English, that belongs to no other language in the world; which is, that we call animals kept for food by one name while they are alive, and by another after they are dead: the Saxons fed the animals, and the Normans ate them: the names therefore by which they are called, while alive, are Saxon, and when dead are French: the Saxon, *bull, ox, cow, calf, sheep*; the French, *beef, veal, and mutton*.” *Baldwin's History of England.—School Edit.*

“As (from the conquest) the people of England consisted of two different nations, the Normans and Anglo-Saxons, they spoke, for a considerable time at least, two different languages, the Norman-French and the Saxon.” *Henry.*

NOTE 12.

“ First Williams—and festivals heightened the year.”

It is recorded of Norman kings that they “displayed both their wealth and liberality at the three great festivals of Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide, every year, and on many other occasions.”

Henry.

The origin of christian festivals in England.—In the time of the Saxon Heptarchy, and at the introduction of Christianity; “As the Pagans practised sacrifices, and feasted with the priests on their offerings, he (Pope Gregory) also exhorted the missionary (Augustine) to persuade them, on Christian festivals, to kill their cattle in the neighbourhood of the church, and to indulge themselves in those cheerful entertainments to which they had been habituated.”

Hume.

NOTE 13.

"The bread, with first William was wholesome and brown."

"The most common bread used by persons in comfortable circumstances, was made of the whole flour, coarse and fine.—The common people had bread made of the meal of rye, barley, or oats."

"The Anglo-Normans had only two stated meals a day, which were dinner and supper."—"The time of dinner, in this period, even at court, and in the families of the greatest barons, was at nine in the forenoon, and the time of supper at five in the afternoon. These times were very convenient for dispatching the most important business of the day without interruption; as the one was before it begun, and the other after it was ended." Supper was the more social meal.

They often repeated the following verse:—

"Lever a cinq, dinner a neuf,
Souper a cinq, coucher a neuf.
Fait vivre d'ans nonante et neuf.
To rise at five, to dinner at nine,
To sup at five, to bed at nine,
Makes a man live to ninety-nine."

Henry.

Anecdote of the barbarous ages.—Sexted and Seward, two kings of the Saxon Heptarchy, who relapsed into idolatry, “expressed great desire to eat the white bread distributed by Mellitus, the bishop, at the communion. But on his refusing them, unless they would submit to be baptized, they expelled him their dominions.”

Hume on Bede..



NOTE 14.

“Once, London had each pleasant walk and each well.”

From rural springs of water, were derived the names of Clerkenwell and Bridewell.



NOTE 15.

“————— princes and clergy so grand.”

A thousand years ago, a price was upon the head of every person in the community. According to the dignity of an individual, or

to station in life, the valuation varied; and from such statements, the amount of fines, for injuries and murder, were determined and exacted.

“ By the laws of Kent, the price of the archbishop’s head was higher than that of the king’s. Such respect was then paid to the ecclesiastics!”

Hume’s History of the Anglo-Saxons.



NOTE 16.

“ The plot by the lattice the cottager saw,” &c.

“ It was not till the end of the reign of Henry 8, that any salads, carrots, turnips, or other edible roots, were produced in England. The little of these vegetables that was used, was formerly imported from Holland and Flanders. Queen Catherine, when she wanted a salad, was obliged to dispatch a messenger thither on purpose.”

Hume.

“ Fuller, in 1660, speaking of the gardens of Surrey, says, “ Gardening was first brought into England for profit about 70 years ago; before which we fetched most of our cherries from Holland, apples from France, and hardly had a mess of raeth-ripe peas, but from Holland, which were dainties for ladies; they came so far and cost so dear.” ”

A writer vindicating the natural soil of England, instances the abundant crops of sea-pease, which grew on the beach between Oxford and Aldborough; and which saved the poor in the dearth of 1555.

From Loudon's Ency. of Gar.



NOTE 17.

“ And no little hands plucked the currant-fruit white.”

“ The berries of this shrub (currant) in its wild state, are red; cultivation has produced white and pale-red berried varieties.”

Loudon.

NOTE 18.

" But sea-kale they had."

" The Saxon month April was called *Sprout Kale*."

Loudon.



NOTE 19.

" King William the Third—rural authors are rife."

" Evelyn (contemporary with William 3,) is universally allowed to have been one of the warmest friends to improvements in gardening and planting that has ever appeared."

In 1629, appeared the first ed. of "Tradescant," entitled, "A Garden of all sorts of pleasant Flowers, with a Kitchen Garden of all manner of Herbs and Roots, and an Orchard of all sorts of Fruit-bearing Trees, &c." "

" In 1521 appeared Arnold's *Chronicles*, in which is a chapter on "The crafte of graffynge, and plantynge, and alterynge of fruits, as well in colours as in taste.".....*Loudon.*

NOTE 20.

“ The Second king William’s complexion was red.”

“ His rapacity procured him the name of the Red Dragon, and his miserable subjects felt its force in the violence and tyranny of his government,”

Colquhoun’s Treatise on the Brit. Empire.

FINIS.

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